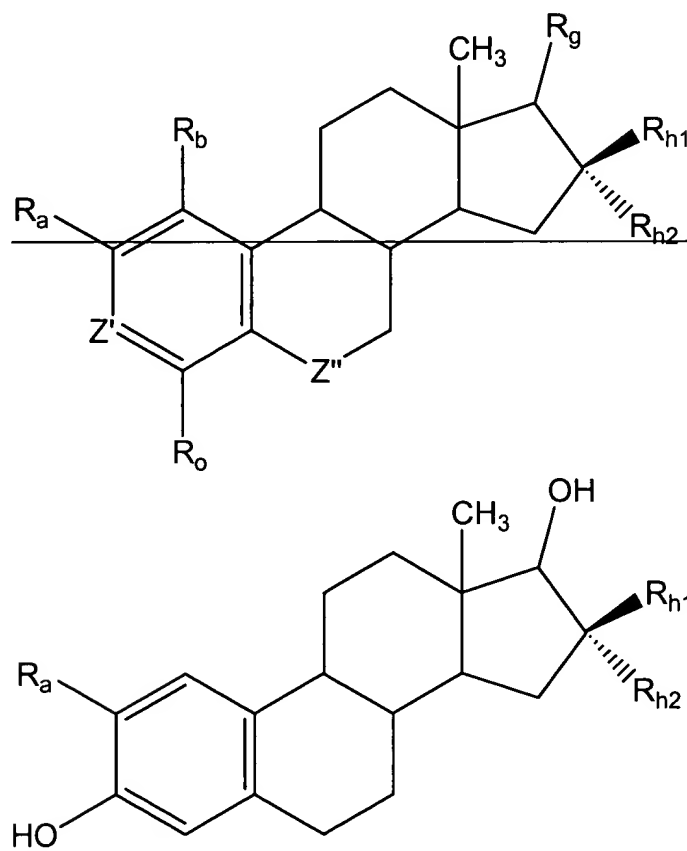


Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims as indicated below.

- (Currently Amended) A compound of the general formula:



wherein:

a) ~~R_b and R_g are independently H;~~

b a) R_a is -N₃, -C≡C-R, -CH=CH-R, -R-CH=CH₂, -C≡CH, ~~O-R~~, -R-R₁,
-OC(O)CH₃, -C(O)H, -NH₂, -NMe₂, or -NHMe, ~~or O-R-R₁~~ where R is a straight or branched
alkyl with up to 10 carbons or aralkyl, and R₁ is -OH, -NH₂, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F or CF₃;

e) ~~Z' is >COH;~~

d) ~~>C-R_g is >C(H)-OH;~~

e b) R_{h1} and R_{h2} are independently H, or a straight or branched chain alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl with up to 6 carbons that is unsubstituted, or substituted with one or more groups selected from a hetero functionality (O-Y, N-Y₂ or S-Y) where Y is independently selected from H, Me or an alkyl chain up to 6 carbons; a halo functionality (F, Cl, Br or I); an aromatic group optionally substituted with hetero, halo or alkyl; or R_{h1} and R_{h2} are independently an aromatic group optionally substituted with hetero, halo or alkyl, provided that both R_{h1} and R_{h2} are not H; and

f) ~~Z''~~ is $>CH_2$;

~~and~~ wherein all monosubstituted substituents have either an α or β configuration.

2. (Cancelled).
3. (Currently amended) The compound of Claim 2 1, wherein:
 R_{h1} and R_{h2} are independently H and Et.
4. (Currently amended) The compound of Claim 2 1, wherein:
 R_{h1} and R_{h2} are independently H and n-Pr.
5. (Currently amended) The compound of Claim 2 1, wherein:
 R_{h1} and R_{h2} are independently H and i-Bu.
6. (Currently amended) The compound of Claim 2 1, wherein:
 R_{h1} and R_{h2} are independently H and CH₂OH.
7. (Currently amended) The compound of Claim 2 1, wherein:
 R_{h1} and R_{h2} are independently H and n-Bu.
8. (Currently amended) The compound of Claim 2 1, wherein:
 R_{h1} and R_{h2} are independently H and Me.

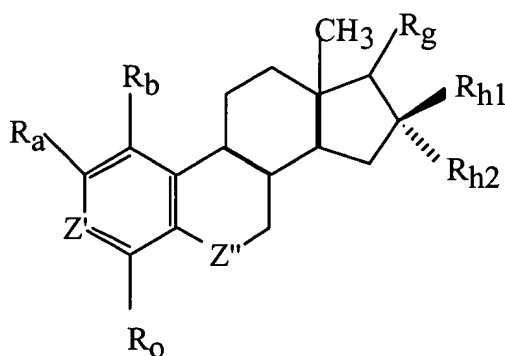
9. (Previously presented) The compound of Claim 1, wherein:

R_{h1} and R_{h2} are independently H and $(CH_2)_nN(Me)_2$, wherein

n is from 1 to 6.

10-22. (Canceled).

23. (Withdrawn) A compound of the general formula:



wherein:

R_b is H,

R_o is -H, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F, -CN, lower alkyl, -OH, -CH₂-OH, -NH₂;

or $N(R_6)(R_7)$, wherein R_6 and R_7 are independently hydrogen or an alkyl or branched alkyl with up to 6 carbons;

R_a is -N₃, -C \equiv N, -C \equiv C-R, -CH=CH-R, -R-CH=CH₂, -C \equiv CH, -O-R, -R-R₁, -OC(O)CH₃, -C(O)H, -NH₂, -NMe₂, -NHMe, or -O-R-R₁ where R is a straight or branched alkyl with up to 10 carbons or aralkyl, and R_1 is -OH, -NH₂, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F or CF₃;

Z' is >C-OH,

>C- R_g is >C(H)OH or >CH₂,

R_{h1} and R_{h2} are H, and

Z'' is $>\text{CH}_2$, $>\text{C}=\text{O}$, $>\text{C}(\text{H})-\text{OH}$, $>\text{C}=\text{N}-\text{OR}_5$, $>\text{C}(\text{H})-\text{C}\equiv\text{N}$, or $>\text{C}(\text{H})-\text{NR}_5\text{R}_5$, wherein each R_5 is independently hydrogen, an alkyl or branched alkyl with up to 10 carbons or aralkyl;

and wherein all monosubstituted substituents have either an α or β configuration.

24. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 23, wherein:

R_O is Br,

R_a is Br,

$>\text{C}-\text{R}_\text{g}$ is $>\text{C}(\text{H})\text{OH}$, and

Z'' is $>\text{CH}_2$.

25. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 23, wherein:

R_O is H,

R_a is OEt,

$>\text{C}-\text{R}_\text{g}$ is $>\text{C}(\text{H})\text{OH}$, and

Z'' is $>\text{C}(\text{H})\text{OH}$.

26. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 23, wherein:

R_O is H,

R_a is OEt,

$>\text{C}-\text{R}_\text{g}$ is $>\text{C}(\text{H})\text{OH}$, and

Z'' is $>\text{C}=\text{NOMe}$.

27. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 23, wherein:

R_O is H,

R_a is OEt,

$>C-R_g$ is $>C(H)OH$, and

Z'' is $>C=NOH$.

28. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 23, wherein:

R_O is H,

R_a is NH_2 ,

$>C-R_g$ is $>CH_2$, and

Z'' is $>CH_2$.

29. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 23, wherein:

R_O is H,

R_a is NMe_2 ,

$>C-R_g$ is $>CH_2$, and

Z'' is $>CH_2$.

30. (Withdrawn) The compound of Claim 23, wherein:

R_O is H,

R_a is $NHMe$,

$>C-R_g$ is $>CH_2$, and

Z'' is $>CH_2$.